

Individual Proposal Report

Title: Evaluation of Tagging Data (I80)

Geographic Area: Landscape

Primary Stressor Addressed: Population Management/Artificial Propagation

Project Type: Research

Applicant Type and Name: Private. Northwest Marine Technology, Inc., Guy Thornburgh, (360) 468-3375.

Funding: The applicant has requested \$1,875,500 for a three year project. It is recommended that the first year and a half be funded, at a cost of \$625,000.

Cost Share: None.

Project Description: This project consists of two integrated components. The first component will evaluate existing coded wire tag and recovery data from the Central Valley, look at hatchery produced salmon contribution toward commercial and recreational harvest, and develop parameters associated with constant fractional or mass marking programs for fish harvest. The second component will demonstrate the feasibility of marking large numbers of fish for release into Central Valley waters. Increasing the tagging levels will provide a much greater definition of juvenile salmon inland distribution, migration rates, growth rates, and origin of fish captured.

ERPP Linkage: The proposal meets the goals of the Ecosystem Restoration Program Plan (CALFED, Volume II, 28 July 1997) as it should help to develop harvest management strategies that allow the spawning population of wild, naturally protected fish to attain levels that fully use existing and restored habitat; focus harvest on hatchery-produced fish (page 393).

AFRP Linkage: This proposal contributes toward making all reasonable efforts to at least double natural production of anadromous fish as it supports the following evaluation listed in the Revised Draft Restoration Plan for the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (USFWS, 30 May 1997): Evaluate a program to tag and fin-clip all or a significant portion of hatchery-produced fish as a means of collecting better information regarding harvest rates on hatchery and naturally produced fish and effects of hatchery-produced fish on naturally produced fish (Central Valley-wide Evaluation 7, page 108).

Applicant's Proposed Monitoring: Monitoring and data evaluation will be accomplished using existing agency programs for tag recovery. The report on constant fraction marking and mass marking feasibility will use accepted statistical and data analysis procedures. CALFED staff will review the proposed monitoring plan and revise as necessary.